Country	Anti-dumping Duty	Countervailing Duty	Safeguard Duty
European Union	• Stainless Steel Fasteners • Steel Stranded Ropes And Cables • Stainless Steel Wire (both dia less than 1mm and 1 mm and more) • Hot dolled Coils • Quarto Plates	• Stainless Steel Bright Bars • Stainless Steel Wire (dia less than 1mm) • Hot Rolled "Coils"	• Bright Electrical Sheets (other than GOES) Stainless Steel wire.

Quality of exportable steel

3265. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item, published in the EconomicTimes, dated the 7th November, 2002, under the title, "Indian Steel not so welcome in South-East Asia, China";

(b) if so, the details thereof and Government's reaction thereto; and

(c) what steps are proposed to be taken to improve the quality of steel, so as to enable it to meet the challenges posed by other steel exporting countries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI BRAJ KISHORE TRIPATHY): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The various developments in international steel trade are being monitored by the Government.The Indonesian Anti-Dumping committee is carrying out a sunset review of imposition of Anti-Dumping duty on the import of hot rolled coils from India. China has introduced safeguard measures *viz.* global quotas for import. However, this will not immediately affect Indian exports to China in view of the concessions given to developing countries under the WTO Agreement on Safeguards. In fact, Indian Steel exports to the identified destinations in South-East Asia have increased in recent times which indicates that while the restrictions imposed by these countries are aimed at protecting their domestic industries, there is apparently no adverse reflection on the quality of Indian steel.

(c) The quality of steel depends upon several factors like the

technology, raw materials used, operational expertise, innovative programmes and systems available in the respective steel plants. The following steps are being taken to ensure that we produce quality steel:

(I) The Global Environment Facility (GEF) project has been undertaken with UNDP's aid with a view to improve the efficiency of operation of the secondary sector, particularly the re-rolling sector and help it to become technically advanced.

(ii) Several modernization up-gradation and renovation programs have been taken up for the steel industry in addition to the extensive in-house restructuring works undertaken by steel plants like SAIL, VSPandTISCO.

(iii) Successful import-substitution programs have been undertaken with particular end-user sectors in mind—indigenous development of special grade steel for the auto industry is one such example.

(iv) More stress is being placed on value added products.

(v) Increased use of computers, telecommunication and software as an integral part-of the production process and quality improvement is another landmark development in the Indian steel industry.

Ban on seconds and defective steel

3266.SHRI PARMESHWAR KUMAR AGARWALLA: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the main steel producers have been demanding a ban on imports of seconds and defective steel items;

(b) if so, what steps have been taken to cope up with the problem of cheap imports of such steel; and

(c) what is the outcome of the steps taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI BRAJ KISHORETRIPATHY): (a) and (b)Yes, Sir. The main steel producers have been demanding a ban on the imports of seconds and defectives. To cope up with the problem of cheap imports of seconds and defective steel items the following steps have been taken by the Government:

* Floor prices on imports of seconds and defectives of certain steel items imposed earlier con'inue;

* Restrictions have been imposed on entry of seconds and defectives through a few designated ports only;